

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) An The apparatus of Claim 1, further for use in tracking whether a tax has been paid for a closed container, comprising:

a radio frequency identification tag comprising a substrate and a radio frequency transceiver circuit adapted to transmit a signal upon receipt of a transmit command and mounted upon said substrate, said radio frequency identification tag containing information indicating that the tax for said container has been paid;

a container;

a cap for said container having a closed end and an open end, said radio frequency identification tag mounted on an inner surface of said cap; and

an engagement member interconnecting said substrate and said container such that removing said cap from said container results in ~~the fracture of said substrate thereby causing~~ said radio frequency identification tag ~~to become becoming~~ permanently disabled.

4. (Currently amended) AnThe apparatus of Claim 1, for use in tracking whether a tax has been paid for a closed container, wherein said radio frequency identification tag further comprises an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said substrate and connected to said radio frequency transeeiver circuit and a first interconnection means on said substrate, said apparatus further comprising:

a radio frequency identification tag comprising a substrate, a radio frequency transceiver circuit adapted to transmit a signal upon receipt of a transmit command and mounted upon said substrate, an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said

substrate and connected to said radio frequency transceiver circuit, and a first interconnection means on said substrate, said radio frequency identification tag containing information indicating that the tax for said container has been paid;

a container;

a cap for said container having a cylindrical portion, a closed end of said cylindrical portion and an open end of said cylindrical portion, said radio frequency identification tag mounted on an inner surface of said cylindrical portion of said cap adjacent to said closed end such that said first connection means faces centrally inward;  
and

a second interconnection means connected to said container for engaging said first interconnection means when said cap is installed on said container such that removing said cap from said container will exert force on said substrate resulting in the fracture of said substrate thereby causing said radio frequency identification tag to become permanently disabled.

5. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus of ~~Claim 1~~, for use in tracking whether a tax has been paid for a closed container, wherein said radio frequency identification tag further comprises an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said substrate and connected to said radio frequency transceiver circuit and a protrusion affixed to said substrate, said apparatus further comprising:

a radio frequency identification tag comprising a substrate, a radio frequency transceiver circuit adapted to transmit a signal upon receipt of a transmit command and mounted upon said substrate, an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said substrate and connected to said radio frequency transceiver circuit, and a protrusion means affixed to said substrate, said radio frequency identification tag containing information indicating that the tax for said container has been paid;

a container;

a cap for said container having a cylindrical portion, a closed end of said cylindrical portion and an open end of said cylindrical portion, said radio frequency identification tag mounted on an inner surface of said cylindrical portion of said cap adjacent to said closed end such that said protrusion extends centrally inward; and

ratcheting means connected to said container for engaging said protrusion when said cap is installed on said container such that removing said cap from said container will exert force on said substrate resulting in the fracture of said substrate thereby causing said radio frequency identification tag to become permanently disabled.

6. (Currently amended) ~~An~~The apparatus of Claim 1, for use in tracking whether a tax has been paid for a closed container, wherein said radio frequency identification tag further comprises an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said substrate and connected to said radio frequency transceiver circuit and a slot in said substrate, said apparatus further comprising:

a radio frequency identification tag comprising a substrate, a radio frequency transceiver circuit adapted to transmit a signal upon receipt of a transmit command and mounted upon said substrate, an antenna having a fixed length mounted upon said substrate and connected to said radio frequency transceiver circuit, and a slot in said substrate, said radio frequency identification tag containing information indicating that the tax for said container has been paid;

a container;

a cap for said container having a cylindrical portion, a closed end of said cylindrical portion and an open end of said cylindrical portion, said radio frequency

identification tag mounted on an inner surface of said cylindrical portion of said cap adjacent to said closed end such that said slot faces centrally inward; and

ratcheting means connected to said container for engaging said slot when said cap is installed on said container such that removing said cap from said container will exert force on said substrate resulting in the fracture of said substrate thereby causing said radio frequency identification tag to become permanently disabled.

7. (Canceled)

8. (New) The apparatus of Claim 3, whereby the removal of said cap results in the fracture of said substrate thereby causing said radio frequency tag to become permanently disabled.